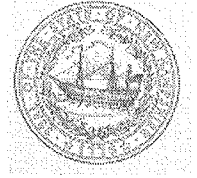


State of New Hampshire
WATER WELL BOARD



Roger B. Skillings, C.W.D. – P.I., *Water Well Contractor*
David R. Hunt, *Water Well Contractor*
Stephen R. Smith, *Pump Installer*
Richard P. Schofield, P.G., *Staff*

Steven Garside, *Technical Driller*
Rene Pelletier, P.G., *Dept. of Environmental Services*
Frederick H. Chormann, Jr., P.G., *State Geologist*
Steve Guercia, *Certified Operator, Public Member*

NH WATER WELL BOARD MINUTES

June 7, 2012

A meeting of the New Hampshire Water Well Board (“Board”) was held on June 7, 2012, at 9:00 AM, in the Department of Environmental Services Building in rooms 111 and 112, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord NH, 03301.

Present were: Roger Skillings, Chairman
Brandon Kernen (for Mr. Rene Pelletier, Secretary)
Board Members: Stephen Smith, David Hunt, Steve Guercia and Steven Garside
NH DES Staff: Richard Schofield

Chairman Skillings brought the meeting to order at 9 AM.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Hunt and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board voted to accept the Minutes of the April 5, 2012 meeting.

Request for Exemption

Wright-Pierce

The Board considered the request from Wright-Pierce for an exemption to the rules for decommissioning three bedrock wells located in the Town of Rye. The wells were originally drilled as exploratory wells for the Rye Water Department and are no longer in use. The wells are being abandoned to prevent preferential pathways for surface water contamination into the highly fractured bedrock aquifer. The exemption would allow the wells to be filled with ¾ inch stone where the wells penetrate the fractured bedrock aquifer. A bentonite seal would be installed above the stone and the remainder of the wells would be tremie grouted to the surface.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Guercia, the Board voted to approve the exemption with certain conditions. The Membership discussed the need to identify the depths to large fractures within the wells to make sure the grout does not enter the aquifer. Several members were confident that this work had already been done but wanted to state for the record the importance of it. The Membership further expressed the need to disinfect the wells to 50 ppm before installing the stone, and that the wells be decommissioned by a licensed NH water well contractor.

Dean DeLaBruere

Mr. DeLaBruere requested an exemption to retake one of the license certification exams at the next regularly scheduled exam date, rather than having to wait a full 90 days as required by rule. The request was based on the unexpected loss of a qualified individual which left the business in an unfortunate situation.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Hunt, the Board voted to approve the exemption.

Administrative Rules

Mr. Schofield provided an update on the current rulemaking for the Board. The Board received review comments on the proposed rules from the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) staff on May 3, 2012. The review comments raised some significant concerns. The Board held a public comment hearing for the rules on May 15. No one from the public attended the hearing to provide comment. Staff read the written comments received from Bart Cushing into the record. No additional written comments were received by the May 22 deadline. Mr. Schofield also highlighted some of the OLS comments for the Board.

Chairman Skillings invited Peter Demas to join the discussion. Mr. Demas is the hearings and rules attorney in the DES Legal Bureau and provides assistance to DES programs with administrative rules. Mr. Demas discussed the OLS staff attorney's comments with the Membership and provided an explanation of the issues raised by OLS and also suggestions on how to address those concerns. In general, there were questions regarding the distinction between a business entity license, an individual license, and an employee license. How fees would be assessed for business entities, individuals, sole proprietorships and partnerships. Also what conditions and limitations would exist for individual or employee licenses.

Mr. Demas suggested the Board decide how it wanted to make these distinctions between licenses and he would work with staff to clarify and build a foundation for the licenses into the rules.

It was agreed that further discussion and consideration would need to be made before moving forward with the current rulemaking. Upon motion by Mr. Hunt, and seconded by Mr. Guercia, the Board voted unanimously to withdraw the current proposed rules, We 301.02 and We 301.03.

LicensingLicense Applicants

The Board was presented with and reviewed the license applications for Mr. Ryan Wragg d/b/a Gap Mountain Drilling, LLC and Mr. Mathew Ednie d/b/a Zebra Environmental Corp.

Upon motion by Mr. Guercia, and seconded by Mr. Hunt, the Board voted to approve Mr. Wragg's application for pump installer license and to transfer his water well contractor license to

Gap Mountain Drilling, LLC.

Upon motion by Mr. Garside, and seconded by Mr. Hunt, the Board voted to approve the license application for Mathew Ednie.

Geothermal Wells

At the last meeting the Board discussed a concern raised by a licensed water well contractor that certain additional rules may be needed for open loop geothermal wells on minimum pumping tests used for the design and installation of return lines. Inadequate pumping tests may and do lead to the return lines being installed too shallow, which can cause return water to cascade into the well, in violation of We 602.15(f). The Board invited Steve Roy, supervisor in the Hydrology Section, Drinking Water Groundwater Bureau, to talk about water quality studies being done on standing column geothermal wells.

Chairman Skillings invited Mr. Roy to the table. Mr. Roy provided an overview of the numbers and types of geothermal systems in New Hampshire derived from the well database and the UIC - geothermal registration program, noting the significant increase in geothermal well installations in New Hampshire between 2003 and 2010, and the distribution of systems mainly in the southern part of the state. He presented the results of water quality tests for standing column well systems. Two systems were Industrial/Commercial/Institutional type facilities with multiple deep geothermal wells and one was a small commercial facility with originally a single standing column well. Water quality parameters measured were Lead, Copper, Zinc (called operational metals) and Arsenic, Uranium, Iron (called naturally occurring contaminants) and Temperature. Depending on the system design and operation some of the results indicated elevated concentrations of operational metals and naturally occurring contaminants in the supply and return water.

The Membership and Mr. Roy discussed possible operational causes and chemical mechanisms for the results.

The Board thanked Mr. Roy for his report.

Reporting Update

Mr. Schofield provided the Board with a report on responses to the April 20, 2012 letter sent by the Board to all water well contractors who reported 40% or fewer well completion reports in 2011 than in 2010. The letter requested contractors to check their records and submit any well completion reports that remained due. Thirty one contractors received letters and the Board received five responses. Contractors that filed late reports were requested to submit a signed statement explaining the reasons for the late reports. DES issued several enforcement letters and there may be additional enforcement actions pending depending on the circumstances in each case.

The Board considered what, if any, further steps should be taken given the small number of respondents to the letter. It was decided to let the DES program staff follow up if deemed necessary under DES's own authority.

New Business

2012 Newsletter

Mr. Schofield asked the Membership for ideas for this year's newsletter. Several topics were discussed.

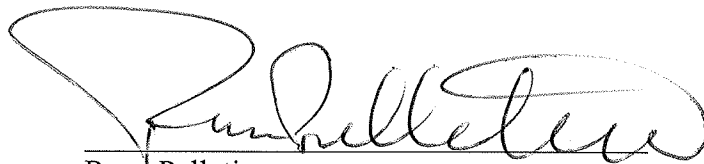
Old Business

Other

Mr. Schofield informed the Membership that the IT staff had developed a new table for the "Employee Database" and loaded data from the old table into the new one. The new table will allow an individual license number to be stored and was upgraded to track both water well contractor and pump installer license status. The existing table only allowed one license status for both licenses.

Mr. Kernan said he would be conducting some additional code compliance inspections this summer to check on compliance with the rules for wells in non-conforming locations.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Hunt, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rene Pelletier", written over a horizontal line.

Rene Pelletier
Water Well Board Secretary